

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGR-20 RSC-01 AID-20 EB-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

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R 191530Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1423

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USLO PEKING

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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FODAG

FROM USDEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, FAO

SUBJECT: FAO/CCP DEBATE ON FOOD AID AND SURPLUS DISPOSAL

1. SUMMARY. DEBATE CENTERED ON "TIED SALES" ISSUE WITH USUAL CRITICISMS BALANCED BY U.S. DEFENSE. CANADIAN PROPOSALS THAT DATA ON TIED USUAL MARKETINGS REQUIREMENTS BE INCLUDED IN CONSULTATIONS AND THAT CSD TRY TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES AFTER WIDE SUPPORT WERE REFERRED TO CSD FOR FURTHER ACTION. ALTHOUGH VARIOUS DELS CRITICIZED U.S. STRONGLY, ONLY ARGENTINA ABUSIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. REVIEW OF REPORTS WASHINGTON SUB-COMMITTEE ON SURPLUS DISPOSAL (CSD) CENTERED AS EXPECTED ON "TIED SALES," ALTHOUGH SEVERAL DELS INCLUDING US NOTED NAME WAS OUT OF DATE AND THAT A FRESH LOOK
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DURING COMING YEAR MIGHT BE WORTHWHILE. STRONGEST CRITICISMS ON

TIED SALES MADE BY ARGENTINA, NETHERLANDS AND CANADA. OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES RELATIVELY MILD. REPS OF FRANCE, EEC AND NEW ZEALAND SILENT. FRENCH REP SAID PRIVATELY SUBJECT WOULD BE RAISED AT GATT DURING MTNS.

3. NETHERLANDS REP READ USUAL SHARP ATTACK AND ASKED THAT CCP CONDEMN THE PRACTICE OF TIED SALES BY THE U.S. BUT DID NOT PRESS POINT. CANADA SUGGESTED CCP RECOMMENDATIONS THAT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS INCLUDE EXPLANATION OF TIED PROVISIONS AND THAT CSD SHOULD FORMULATE GUIDELINES ON TIED SALES. THESE PROPOSALS RECEIVED WIDE SUPPORT AND IN EFFECT WERE PASSED ON TO CSD FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

4. ARGENTINA IN ABUSIVE LANGUAGE CHARGED THAT U.S. WAS AGGRESSIVE, USING FOOD AID AS A MEANS OF EXPANDING COMMERCIAL SALES AT EXPENSE PRIMARILY LDC'S AND VIOLATING RULES ACCEPTED BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. CUBA AND MEXICO BRIEFLY SUPPORTED. U.K. REP INCORRECTLY SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD OFTEN OPPOSED TIED SALES AS OBJECTIONABLE. INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND BRAZIL SPOKE BRIEFLY FOR RECORD.

5. U.S. REPLIED IN LOW KEY STRESSING THAT TIED UMRS USED TO PROTECT LEGITIMATE INTERESTS AND NOT USED AGGRESSIVELY, AND THAT U.S. RESPECTED VIEWS AND INTERESTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES AND CONDUCTED FOOD AID PROGRAMS ACCORDINGLY. IN PRIVATE TALKS, DEL HAS GAINED IMPRESSION OTHER KEY DELS EXCEPT ARGENTINA READY TO EXERCISE LEEWAY IN INSTRUCTIONS TO AVOID CONTENTIONS DEBATE AND PLANNED ITS STRATEGY ACCORDINGLY. MRS. LEIBERG OF WASHINGTON FAO OFFICE HELPFUL IN DRAFTING MILD REPORT. VOLPE

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